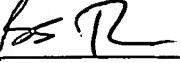
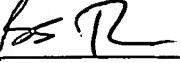
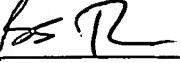


UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL <small>(only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))</small>		Attorney Docket No. ETH1538CO									
		First Inventor Christopher J. Hess									
		Title Vesel Harvesting Retractor with Integral Electrosurgical Clamping Elements									
		Express Mail Label No. EV138492293US									
112403 172044 U.S. PTO 10/7/2003 122360 112403											
APPLICATION ELEMENTS		ADDRESS TO: Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450									
<p>See MPEP Chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</p> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 23] (Preferred arrangement set forth below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Descriptive Title of the Invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R&D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure </p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)(35 USC 113) [Total Sheets 7]</p> <p>5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages] a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) <small>(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76</p> <p>18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/967,201, filed 9/28/01. Prior application information: Examiner M. Thaler Group Art Unit: 3731 For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation <u>can only</u> be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.</p> <p>19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label 000027777 or <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence Address below</p> <p>Name: Philip S. Johnson, Esq. Address: Johnson & Johnson One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003 USA</p> <p>20. TELEPHONE CONTACT Please direct all telephone calls or telefaxes to Brian S. Tomko at: Telephone: (732) 524-1239 Fax: (732) 524-2808</p> <p>21. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>NAME</td> <td>Brian S. Tomko</td> <td>Reg. No. 41349</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SIGNATURE</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DATE</td> <td colspan="2">November 24, 2003</td> </tr> </table>			NAME	Brian S. Tomko	Reg. No. 41349	SIGNATURE			DATE	November 24, 2003	
NAME	Brian S. Tomko	Reg. No. 41349									
SIGNATURE											
DATE	November 24, 2003										

FEE TRANSMITTAL		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	Christopher J. Hess
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	M. Thaler
		Attorney Docket Number	ETH1538CON

FEE CALCULATION

CLAIMS AS FILED

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
FOR:	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	BASIC FEE \$750.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	25 - 20 =	5	x 18.00	\$ 90.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3 - 3 =	0	x 84.00	\$ 0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	\$280.00	
			TOTAL FEES	\$ 840.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ETH1538CON/BST in the amount of \$840.00. Three copies of this sheet are enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with the filing of this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 10-0750/ETH1538CON/BST. Three copies of this sheet are enclosed.

SUBMITTED BY:		<i>Complete (if applicable)</i>	
Typed or Printed Name	Brian S. Tomko		Reg. No. 41,349
Signature	<i>BST</i>	Date: 11/24/03	Deposit Account No. 10-0750

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hess et al.

For : Vessel Harvesting Retractor with Integral
Electrosurgical Clamping Elements

Express Mail Certificate

"Express Mail" mailing number: EV138492293US

Date of Deposit: November 24, 2003

I hereby certify that this complete application, including specification pages, claims, formal drawings, Declaration and Power of Attorney, Assignment, Preliminary Amendment, and Information Disclosure Statement/Form 1449, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Laurie Phillips

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)



(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)